

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system to facilitate session initiation protocol (SIP) proxy-based support of routing as regards communications for ~~at least a given~~ a first region and a second region, comprising:

~~a first at least one SIP proxy, dedicated, at least in part, to supporting routing of communications for a first plurality of clients in the given first region, wherein at least some of the first plurality of clients each have a first plurality of differing user identifiers and wherein, for at least one client of the plurality of clients, at least two of the plurality of differing user identifiers each corresponds to a same first communication service;~~

a second SIP proxy supporting routing of communications for a second plurality of clients in the second region; and

a third SIP proxy supporting routing of communications between the first SIP proxy and the second SIP proxy

~~at least one memory operably coupled to the at least one SIP proxy.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy comprises at least two SIP proxies.

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ at least one client in the first plurality of clients is enabled with at least two user identifiers, each user identifier corresponding at least two of the plurality of differing user identifiers that each corresponds to a same communication service further comprises at least two of the plurality of differing user identifiers that each corresponds to a push-to-talk communication service.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein ~~one of the plurality of differing user identifiers comprises an identifier having a standard SIP uniform resource identifier format and wherein another of the plurality of differing user identifier comprises an identifier having a standard telecommunications uniform resource identifier format at least one of the plurality of clients, at least two of the plurality of differing user identifiers~~ the at least one client in the first plurality of clients is

enabled with a first user identifier and a second user identifier, wherein the first user identifier is a standard SIP uniform resource identifier and the second user identifier is a telecommunications uniform resource identifier, wherein the same communication service is a push-to-talk communication service, and wherein the at least one client is able to use the first user identifier and the second user identifier interchangeably.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[1]] 2, further comprising a push-to-talk server, wherein the at least one SIP proxy operably couples to a push-to-talk server is operably connected to the at least two SIP proxies.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, ~~and further comprising at least one additional SIP proxy dedicated, at least in part, to supporting routing of communications for a second plurality of clients in a second region,~~ wherein at least some of the second plurality of clients each have a plurality of differing user identifiers and wherein, for at least one of the second plurality of clients, at least two of the plurality of differing user identifiers ~~each corresponds~~ correspond ~~to the first~~ a same communication service.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[6]] 1, wherein ~~the at least one SIP proxy as is dedicated to the region is operably coupled to the at least one additional SIP proxy as is dedicated to the second region either the first region, the second region, or both the first region and the second region correspond to a wireless coverage area.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[6]] 1, wherein a wireless coverage area as corresponds to the first region at least partially overlaps with a wireless coverage area as corresponds to the second region.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[6]] 1, wherein a wireless coverage area as corresponds to the first region does not overlap with any part of a wireless coverage area as corresponds to the second region.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, ~~[[6]]~~ 1, ~~[[and]]~~ further comprising:
~~at least one further additional a fourth~~ SIP proxy dedicated, at least in part, to supporting to supporting routing of communications for a third plurality of clients in a third region, wherein at least some of the third plurality of clients each have a plurality of differing user identifiers and wherein, for at least one of the third plurality of clients, at least two of the plurality of differing user identifiers each corresponds to a same communication service.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the first ~~at least one~~ SIP proxy supports SIP compression.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy supports SIP compression to thereby improve airlink utilization ~~as between a given one of the push-to-talk clients, wherein the given client are push-to-talk clients and the at least one SIP proxy.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy comprises a first hop SIP proxy with respect to a given client in the first plurality of the given one of the push-to-talk clients, wherein the given client is a push-to-talk client.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy supports push-to-talk styled communications for roaming push-to-talk clients in the ~~given~~ first region.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy supports inter-region push-to-talk styled communications as between push-to-talk clients that are located in different regions.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy further supports presence service.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy further supports presence service for at least some of the first plurality of ~~push-to-talk clients within~~

the given region.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~given~~ first region comprises a plurality of push-to-talk service domains each having a corresponding uniform resource identifier domain name.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~given~~ first region comprises a push-to-talk service domain of a push-to-talk service having a plurality of push-to-talk service domains each having a corresponding uniform resource identifier domain name.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the user identifiers for the first plurality of clients have at least one of a domain name and a sub-domain name that is distinct from any domain name and sub-domain name, respectively, as is assigned to any network component in the system.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy further comprises authentication and registration means for facilitating authentication of ~~push-to-talk~~ the first plurality of clients, ~~wherein at least some of the first plurality of clients are push-to-talk clients.~~

22. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the authentication and registration means are further for serving as a registrar for mobile clients.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the authentication and registration means are further for accommodating a push-to-talk client that presents either of at least two different available-to-the-client client uniform resource identifiers.

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy further comprises routing means for making routing decisions for SIP messages as are provided thereto.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the routing means are further for facilitating routing decisions in conjunction with a directory server.

26. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the routing means are further for making the routing decisions for all SIP messages as are provided thereto.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy further comprises compression means for compressing and decompressing SIP traffic to and from a corresponding one of the push-to-talk clients.

28. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the ~~at least one~~ first SIP proxy further comprises presence means for supporting presence within the system, at least in part, by supporting SIP/SIMPLE messages.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for routing SIP messages between a first client served by a first SIP proxy in a first region and a second client served by a second SIP proxy in a second region to facilitate session initiation protocol (SIP) proxy-based support of routing as regards communications for at least a given region, comprising:

~~providing at least one SIP proxy dedicated, at least in part, to supporting routing of communications for a plurality of clients in the given region, wherein at least one of the plurality of clients has at least two differing uniform resource identifiers by which to identify itself;~~

~~when receiving a communication from the at least one of the plurality of clients that uses a first one of the at least two differing uniform resource identifiers, automatically facilitating a first kind of communication for that client;~~

~~when receiving a communication from the at least one of the plurality of clients that uses a second one of the at least two differing uniform resource identifiers, which second one of the at least two differing uniform resource identifiers is different from the first one of the at least two differing uniform resource identifiers, automatically facilitating the first kind of communication for that client~~

receiving, at a third SIP proxy, a SIP message from the first client, via the first SIP proxy, destined for the second client;

determining the second SIP proxy serving the second client; and
routing the SIP message to the second client via the second SIP proxy.

30. (cancelled)

31. (cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein receiving a SIP message comprises receiving the SIP message at a third SIP proxy and further comprising: providing the at least one SIP proxy with a system name having a domain name portion that is different than any domain name as is assigned to any of the plurality of clients.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the ~~first~~ at least one SIP proxy comprises a plurality of SIP proxies and wherein the ~~given first~~ region comprises a plurality of push-to-talk domains and further comprising: assigning at least some of the plurality of SIP proxies to different ~~ones of the push-to-talk domains~~ in the plurality of push-to-talk domains.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein ~~automatically facilitating a first kind of communication for that~~ the SIP message from the first client further comprises ~~automatically facilitating a SIP message facilitating a push-to-talk communication for~~ [[that]] the first client.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein ~~automatically the SIP message~~ facilitating a push-to-talk communication for [[that]] the first client further comprises ~~automatically a SIP message~~ facilitating a wireless push-to-talk communication for [[that]] the first client.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 34, wherein ~~automatically the SIP message~~ facilitating a push-to-talk communication for [[that]] the first client further comprises ~~automatically a SIP message~~ facilitating a wireline push-to-talk communication for [[that]] the first client.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, [[and]] further comprising:

upon receiving a ~~communication from a first one of the plurality of clients~~ the SIP message from the first client, automatically authenticating the ~~first one of the plurality of clients~~ client via the at least one SIP proxy.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 37 ~~and further comprising:~~ wherein automatically authenticating the ~~first one of the plurality of clients~~ client comprises ~~via the at least one SIP proxy~~ using an authentication server.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, ~~[[and]]~~ further comprising:
upon receiving a ~~communication from a first one of the plurality of clients~~ the SIP message from the first client, automatically decompressing the SIP message ~~communication~~.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, ~~[[and]]~~ further comprising:
~~automatically compressing an SIP communication~~ the SIP message from the first client to
~~provide~~ generate a compressed SIP communication ~~intended for receipt by at least one of the plurality of clients.~~

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 40, further comprising ~~wherein automatically compressing an SIP communication to provide a compressed SIP communication intended for receipt by at least one of the plurality of clients further comprises automatically compressing an SIP communication to provide a~~ sending the compressed SIP communication ~~intended for wireless receipt by at least one of the plurality of clients.~~

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, ~~[[and]]~~ further comprising: upon receiving an SIP communication ~~from a first one of the plurality of clients~~ the SIP message from the first client, automatically publishing presence information ~~regarding the first one of the plurality of clients~~ about the first client.

43. (Currently Amended) A session initiation protocol (SIP) proxy comprising:
~~[[an]]~~ a SIP proxy engine;

a memory operably coupled to the SIP proxy engine; and
a push-to-talk server interface to facilitate operably coupling the SIP proxy engine to a push-to-talk server[;], wherein the SIP proxy engine has at least a first mode of operation wherein the SIP proxy engine will facilitate a push-to-talk communication for a push-to-talk client that communicates ~~[[an]]~~ a SIP message to the SIP proxy containing ~~either of two different client~~ a SIP uniform resource identifiers and a telecommunications uniform resource identifier for the ~~to that~~ push-to-talk client.

44. (Original) The SIP proxy of claim 43 wherein the first mode of operation further facilitates decompression of compressed SIP messages as are received from the push-to-talk client.

45. (Original) The SIP proxy of claim 43 wherein the first mode of operation further facilitates compression of SIP messages as are transmitted to the push-to-talk client.

46. (Original) The SIP proxy of claim 43 wherein the first mode of operation further facilitates authentication and registration of the push-to-talk client.

47. (Original) The SIP proxy of claim 43 wherein the first mode of operation further facilitates making routing decisions for SIP messages as are sourced by the push-to-talk client.

48. (Original) The SIP proxy of claim 43 wherein the first mode of operation further facilitates supporting distribution of presence information regarding the push-to-talk client.

49. (Original) The SIP proxy of claim 43 wherein the first mode of operation further facilitates a roaming communication for the push-to-talk client.

50-65. (Cancelled)